IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re: Patent Application of

Michael J. Picciallo

Application No.: 09/478,051

Filed: January 15, 2000

For: ALLOWANCE CARD OR ACCOUNT

Group Art Unit: 2164 Support

Examiner: K. Scaggs

12-12-01

## CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any paper indicated as being enclosed, are being sent via facsimile addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, at (703) 746-3358 on November 29, 2001.

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

## VOLUNTARY AMENDMENT

The following amendment and remarks are submitted following a telephone interview with the Examiner on November 29, 2001 during which a replacement Abstract was requested.

## IN THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the paragraph at page 31, lines 2-7 and replace it with the following text:

Computer-based methods for transferring funds to third parties by creating for a third party a customer account file containing a record of funds deposited by a depositor for use by the third party; and periodically depositing funds into the customer account file in response to command instructions from the fund depositor for access by the third party to pay for goods or services.

